

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1907, Robert Jennings homesteaded on the present day Jennings ranch in Stanley County and his wife, Lucile Pengra Jennings, homesteaded on adjacent property in Lyman County; and,

Whereas, On October 11, 1908, Robert married Lucile and to that union four children were born: Darrell, Dorothy, Robert, Jr. and Kenneth, and the couple began raising and breaking horses, raising beef cattle and producing hay, all in accordance with the Homestead Act of 1862; and,

Whereas, Robert was one of the first appointed USDA officials in the area and was credited with helping to secure government support loans for many central South Dakota farms and ranches; and,

Whereas, Darrell and Mary Jennings are second-generation ranch owners with six children; Lois, Darrell Lee, Norma, Marilyn, Keith and Robert; and,

Whereas, The third-generation ranch owners, Keith and Patti Jennings, and children, Brian, Barry, Marla and Byron, have raised beef cattle, wheat, sunflowers and hay and have maintained the operation for the past 32 years; and,

Whereas, For the past 100 years, in the face of the Great Depression, droughts, flooding, hail storms, blizzards, pests, weeds, disease, energy prices, market booms and busts and foreign competition, the Jennings family has managed a successful operation by their innovative methods and improved technology; and,

Whereas, For Robert, Lucile, Darrell, Mary, Keith, Patti and their children, the prairie grass and farm fields in rural Stanley and Lyman Counties have not only provided the means in which to make a living and run a business, but have also played an integral role in providing for a meaningful and important way of life; and,

Whereas, The Jennings family will join with friends in celebrating 100 years of farming and ranching on July 4, 2007, and it is fitting and proper for the governor to recognize this milestone event:

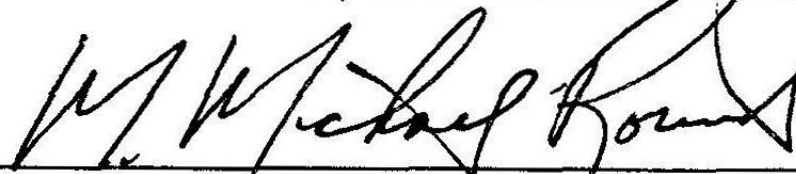
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 4, 2007, as

JENNINGS FAMILY RANCH DAY


in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State